

Plants
St. John's

Answered

Summerville, S. Carolina

Dear Mrs. Coffin,

Thank you so much for
your letter telling me of Mrs.
Speen. I had from her a copy
of the order of Service for Dr.
Speen - so simple and so very
beautiful. At the bottom was
a tiny note in her handwriting,
at the end "God is indeed
good." What a magnificent
tribute to her faith. I cried -
I could not help it, for I do love
her so deeply, and I thought
how pleased her husband must
be to know of her bravery

Somehow, I never feel that the
Deer-Overs who have gone from
our sight are very far away.
I always loved the poem of
Robert Louis Stevenson (I can't
remember the name) especially
this verse

"He is not dead that friend, not dead,
But in the path, we mortals tread
Is some few trifling steps ahead
And nearer to the end.

So that we, too, once past the bend
Shall greet again as face to face that
friend

We fancy dead"

Whenever I think of Dr. Speer,
I see him as he was when I
spent the night there last spring,
so brother & stalwart and joyous,
showing me his flowers with
such pride & love for them.

It seems to me that even his flowers,
next spring, will feel his spirit near
them. I wish there were not so many
whys in life; but God will answer
them some day. And we all thank
our Blessed Lord for the rest He gives
His Saints.

We are enjoying this place so much.
Our neighbors brought us gifts - holly
(different from our northern holly, but very
beautiful) Christmas cake, & several
superb Camellias, so that our big living
room glows with color. The doctor's wife
sent over a duck! There is much friend-
liness here. Our Christmas day was quiet
& happy. We went to Holy Communion in
St. Paul's church next door, on Christmas Eve

and it was a beautiful, solemn, yet
joyful time. Several young women came
in their ball dresses.

Would you please tell me the name
of that very nice stovekeeper who is a State
Representation. I had a talk with him
when I came to see him. Spec in November,
I want to write to him about a grave
wrong which he hopes to rectify.

With best wishes for the New Year
with the hope of seeing you next Spring

Very sincerely yours

Isabel Hoar



La Breville

Jan 16 - 48

Dear Mrs Speer

I want to tell you how
deeply sorry I am
about Mr Speer's passing
over since I was a
young girl and heard
him at Hotel Riss I
have had the
greatest admiration
for him.

It seems to me that he
could ill be spared in
this chaotic world.

What a wonderful
suspense you have
been to him!

My love, admiration
and deepest sympathy
go to you.

affectionately yours
Jessie O. Hammond

✓ January 11-

My dear Mrs. Speer

One of my cherished memories will long be that night of November fifth when Dr. Speer talked to us on the Gospel of John.

It seemed to me a miracle then, and my feeling has increased since, that his glorious spirit could rise above his physical weakness and give us such a powerful analysis of

of John's conception of
the heart and mind
of Christ."

You said to me after-
ward that he felt he
must come that night to
give his witness, and
his last talk was
surely a glorious witness.
I had with me that
evening a friend whose
husband had "gone on"
only two weeks before
and she has been
grateful for the great

comfort and help that
she received that even-
ing.

I want you to know that
I am one more of
your countless friends
who have thought of
you with loving sympathy
thru these weeks of
adjustment and loneliness
— even while we rejoice
that his vital work was
continued almost to
the time when "God
took him"
Dr. Mott's tribute in

the Woman's Press
Shows clearly how dif-
ficult it would have
been for him to have
a long period of
inactivity.

With my best wishes
to you for the difficult
weeks and months
ahead. Affectionately,

Donise Moore-Jersey
45 South Hamilton Street
Toughkeepsie.



FOUR THE HIGH ROAD

• BRONXVILLE •

NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Speer.

I find it very hard to become used to the fact that your husband has passed from this scene to the unseen world. I heard him first many years ago at a Northfield Student Conference. I remember yet how stirring he was, and ever since I have felt toward him warmer admiration and personal gratitude.

I shall not try to say what is

in my heart to say about him. I
simply wanted you to know with
what affectionate and prayerful
sympathy we are thinking of
you in our home here. May
you have wide margins of
reserve around your daily need
and deep wells to draw your
comfort from!

Sincerely yours,
Harry Emerson Fosdick

Dec 1, 47



Candles of the Lord

To wish you
Every Happiness
for this
Christmas Season



We send our deepest sympathy & wishes
for your peace - & comfort - & happiness

The Murdoches

✓
American Mission
Basinet, Lebanon
Dec. 31, 1947

My dear Mrs. Spear,

You have been much
in my thoughts since we heard
of Dr. Spear's Home going. The
news was long in reaching us.
You will know that we feel
it a personal loss. We had
had associates in our fellowship
for so many years with Dr.
Spear in this work which we

all time. He was a great
visitation. He gave us a
wonderful sense of steadfastness
and of security. We have missed
him very much indeed since
his retirement. We prize his
friendship very much.

We still we prize his
friendship. Such relationships
can never end since they are
of the Spirit. If there is a
joy in our hearts, there is
also the blessed sense of
steadfastness and continuity

still there.

I thought especially of Dr. Spurr
at Christmas time. Three men
Barbara said, Christmas has
always had a new beauty,
as I think of the joy they must
have in Heaven that the Saviour
of the World was born. When we
sing the Christmas hymns I
feel as tho I could almost hear
them singing with us, and
earth and Heaven seem very
near each other.

You will not need any thing

that I can say by way of
comfort because you are so
close to the Source of all comfort
and strength; but I love to
share with you the blessing
of our experience.

I send my warm sympathy
very sincerely

Believe me ever truly
yours

Of course I wish to associate
myself with all that Mrs. Neal
has said. I had received very recently
a letter from Dr. Speer which spoke
of the happy years of our mutual
association with the work of the Church
abroad. I was planning to see
him without fail when we return next
fall. We all have such interesting
recollections of him. Very truly yours,
James H. Neal

The Covenant Manse
1689 East 115th Street
Cleveland

4 December 1847

Dear Mrs. Speer:—

We were all so shocked to hear
of your husband's death last week. One of my Elders
called Lakeville by long distance telephone on
Tuesday, November 25th, to invite Dr. Speer to
preach in the Church of the Covenant on January 25th,
appropos of my 20th Anniversary here, and the Lakeville operators
have been the news which has not yet appeared in our
papers, and we had not seen the New York Times of that
date. Dr. Speer's reports of me in & great variety

of wars over a period of forty years made me want to
have him with us in January. Maynard and I will
never forget his visit in the Covenant House a few years
ago. We both feel the warmth of his friendship and
we both want to express our deep sympathy and love
to you and your family.

Last Sunday morning I picked from an address which
I had Dr. Speer deliver in my sophomore year at College.
I do not know whether the words are in print (I saw in
an old College paper where I found them) so I am venturing to
send the excerpt in question to you. Needless to say we shall
always be mindful of all that you both have done for us
in ways of which you have probably never been conscious.
Very gratefully yours,
Oleis Sweet Wind



Dr. Jean H. Pattison

Dear Mrs Spear - I know
you are swamped with
letters for you and
Mr Spear's friends are
legion and every one
of us ^{are} sending you
our special thought
& love these days.

I'm glad you are
well on your way for
told your sales.

Please let me see
me some time -
With my love from P^o

✓
JOHN CROSBY
1010 SECURITY BUILDING
MINNEAPOLIS

Nov. 28. 1947

My dear Mr. Speer:

The loss of your "Robbie", as
we at Anderson used to affectionately call him,
is a real blow to all of us.

I think of no one of my friends that I
regarded with more love and respect.

While I have not seen much of him since
Anderson days, it has always been a solid
satisfaction to know that was somewhere

doing good.

And a great man, with all that
he has accomplished!

Please accept for yourself and the
other members of your family my fullest
sympathy.

Sincerely yours,

John Crosby.

✓ 7322 Bryan Street
Philadelphia 19

23 December 1947

My dear Mrs. Speer

Mrs. Astbrook
and I have been thinking of you and
your great loss and our hearts go
out to you in your first Christmas
of separation from Dr. Speer.

And yet the consciousness of his
long life devoted so sincerely and so
effectively to the spread of The Kingdom

must bring you all at this
Christmas an inward glowing
peace that few people experience.

We cannot wish you a Merry
Christmas, but we do not have
to wish you the rich Blessings
of Christmas because we know
they are for you all.

I am sending you a Christmas
Evangel for which I made the
cover. And in it also is a little
Christmas poem written by my
brother who died last May. As a
memorial to him I have lettered
it

Our best wishes to you all

Condially

James Ashbrook

Mrs Robert E. Speer

Bryn Mawr

✓
Goned Farm,
December 4th, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:-

Your lovely,
comforting words to me mean
more than I can say. Only
you would have written, at
such a time.

We are happy for you
that Pat Barbour could
come. If you are at Rock.
ledge and have the time
and strength, it would be
wonderful to hear from you.
If, on the other hand, there
is anything from the house

that we could collect and
send you, we'd be delighted
to do so.

Janet at East seems
reasonably strong and well
again and expects to return
to college this week. end. It
has been wonderful for me
to have this leisurely time

with her, - truly an inspiring
and strengthening experience,
for her father and me.

God bless and be with
you - I know He is. We think
of you and of each member of
the family whom we treat with
deep love. Thank you for
your healing letter. Ever yours
Rose

✓
Dear Mrs. Speer,

Mrs. French told
me of Doctor Speer's death
and the news makes
me very sad because
of the sorrow it brings

to you. Such a gallant
companion would
be deeply missed.

I think of you often
and pray that God
will give you strength
and courage for these
hard days.

Harlow joins me in
sympathy to you. Please
come to see us when
you are in New York.
You know that we
have a bed for you

any time.

Affectionately yours,
Claire Major

115 East Thirty-fifth Street
New York City
December fifth



Mrs. John Sparhawk, Jr.

353 Farmington Avenue
Hartford
Connecticut

Emma My Dear

This 'love of love and
sympathy goes to you with
my heart achin' with you.
I remember some one
wrote to me, in 1915

" My love to you - Alkierr!"

She was a recent widow.
But no one has more beautiful
Memories than you, dear.
You and Rob have
been together so consistently
in these long and happy years
allotted to you.

And the Divine Lord gives
us the strength to live on
alone, one day at a time.
I am glad Jack and I
were with you Dear Lord
as often as possible.

And you and Rob were
so strong in helping me to

leave in line -

He was a "Son-in-law" with
our dear father, as he often wrote

All this means we are all
thinking of you in deepest
sympathy. Dear.

I wish we might meet often.
Always yours faithfully

Alice L. J. Spinkhawk

7 December, 1947



One to you, Mrs. Speer.

✓ We are sending: Thanks-
giving contribution to the
Friends Service Committee
in loving memory of
Dr. Speer.

Mary and Margaret.

Flowers - home



BAPHARE TYCE & SONS CO., LTD.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
AND THE F.M.S. (SINGAPORE)
10, RAFFLES PLACE.



2/27/77 Box 1475.

358 21 37 1/2

Wednesday Morning

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Please let me add my word
of deep sympathy to that of your
hosts of other friends. Dr. Speer meant
so much to all whom he touched
in life and the inspiration of his
gracious smile and wise counsel
will not be forgotten. I know how

greatly you will miss him for I
understand so well what-it-means
to have to say goodbye to those
most-precious to us even though
we know they go on to greater
service in the presence of the Lord.
As the poet said - "He is not dead,
he is just-away" -

With loving and understanding sympathy.

Edith Condit

Mrs. Alfred C. Garrett

My dear Mrs. Speer:

947 My heart goes out to you and
your family in tender sympathy
at this time, in the loss of the
beloved husband and father.

I cannot but feel what a blessing
it has been that this great sorrow
did not come when your family
was so widely scattered, and that
Mr. Speer lived to see his daughter
and son safely settled in this country.

Mary's shepherdman has told me
what a beautiful and impressive
message your husband gave at
his last Public appearance, it must
have made a lasting impression on
those who heard him.

The words keep coming to my mind
"Well done good and faithful servant
enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

With affectionate greetings
+ sincere sympathy,
Sincerely,
Chas. E. Garrett.
Fairfield Nov. 24th 1947

2/28

June 1884



Dear Friend
7 years • I just
want to send
you my love,
Sympathy at this
time of your great
sorrow. I feel
deeply for you
dear. I often
think of you
and our Bible
class. In our
little Sunday
School room

Now that little
away - Son has
gone. I live alone
but - I have good
friends, and
I can see all
your English
friends free for
you all.

May God bless
up toed and
comfort - you dear
Helen joins her
love with mine

Longly

to an 1/2 lb.

2 lb. D weight

pp acc.

Englewood

N.Y.

A REPRODUCTA BOTANIC CREATION



COPYRIGHT

CHINA ASTER

Callistephus Chinensis

Miss Mary Bidwell Breed

2002
✓
My dear Emma,

Just a line to
say that I am so sorry
for your loss. My
family have always
been among Dr. Speer's
most ardent admirers.

With much sympathy

Yours cordially

Mary Breed

Newton, N. J.

Nov. 26th, 1947

MRS. EDWARD C. CARTER
215 EAST 72ND STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.
REGENT 7-3951

November 25 -

My dear,
My tribute to your
husband and to you
is that by his going
his spirit opens wide
the gates of Heaven
and strengthens the

bonds that hold -
those of us of true
vision on the
paths of righteousness.
My love and
deep sympathy
go to you..

Received by
Alice J. J. J.

33 N. Hanover St.
Carlisle, Pa.

Nov. 25, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

It was a shock the other day when I saw in the evening paper of the Home going of Dr. Speer - I had not known he was ill. For

you I am very sorry,
but we can only re-
joice for him. He will
be happier than he has
ever been — has just
gone to be with his
master whom he loved
and served so well, and
will await your coming.

We who worked
under him as mis-
sionaries, all that
so much of him, and
you will have the
prayers of all of us.

may our Father
bless and keep you.

Sincerely,

Amanda Kerr,

✓
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SEVENTEEN HUNDRED AND TWO IOWA STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA
ALFRED SAMUEL NICKLESS, D. D., MINISTER

Dec 9/47.

Dear Mrs Speer! -
All at First Church
were shocked & saddened to hear of
Dr Speer's death. A week ago last
Sunday we sang Dr Speer's favorite
hymn in loving tribute to a great -

Christian, who has meant everything to the
church ecumenically. What an inspiration
& challenge he has been to thousands. How
we will miss him. Yet we know that in his
Spiritual presence he will still be with us
bidding us carry on. Dr Spoor knew of
"the luminous side of death" of which
Browning writes.

May the God of all comfort & peace be very
near you, is the prayer of Mrs Nickless & myself. Sincerely
Alfred S. Nickless

575
Dear Cousin Emma,-

✓ Little Monroeville.
Longfellow.

I do want to send you love
to you at this time and to tell you how
deeply I feel ~~your~~ ^{your} going. What a rare privilege
it has been to know him and to
hear him through all the years.
I have always cherished the memory of that
afternoon at Haverford when we had
such a good time together. There you
told me that Mr. Spear had spent much
time working on the Bailey Family Tree.

I always hoped to see that:

My Emma Barker has a lovely little
girl named Josephine Barker - And I ~~absolutely~~
longed to get Barker into the names
of her two boys!

Again my love to you,

fondly,

Josephine R. Hoffer.

Born 1871

(Allan)

Mrs Josephine Roe Hoffer

Mon D.

Willis Monocacy.
Douglasville. Pa.

Hotel Lake Alfred
Lake Alfred
Dec 10 " Fla

Dear Emma - You are in our thoughts
and prayers these days, dear friend.
As we started on our trip the day
Dr. Speck died, and were out of
touch with our Dr. G. Limer and
radio news for twelve days, the news
came as a special shock to us -
We are thankful that when the
sad came, you were in

Margaret's home, with Billy and
"Holly" near by - The days of adjustment
without your best companions will be
many, but your deep faith and her
well support and comfort you all
the way - You have been an
inspiration to your friends under
all circumstances in your life - And
now will "show us the way" to meet
our break in the most personal
relationship in life - Please do not
answer this note - Our sympathy and
our love to you Margaret P. Brown

1895 Grand Concourse
New York 53

My dear Mrs. Speer:

This morning's newspaper has brought us the sad news of the passing away from earth of our dear friend Dr. Speer.

I want to let you know of my sympathy for you in this hour of sorrow and for the members of your family.

May you who have so

often comforted others in
comforted men by the
consciousness of Christ's
presence with you.

Those of us who for many
years served in the "English
Board with L. W. Hunt have
our memories of a noble
Christian life. I shall
always be grateful for
the inspiration he gave
me. He has entered into
the joy of his Lord.

My sister Florence joins
me in this message of
sympathy.

With the prayer that
our Father will bless
and strengthen you

now, and in the days to
come, I am

Most sincerely yours,

Susie A. Pinder

November 25, 1947

2355 ✓

(2355) books for
sale

(Aug 1.13)

28- W. 26th

N.Y. 10

Dear Mr. Speer

It is hardly
kind to give you
even more words to
read but let me
say I think of you
as having gone

through a dark
shadow and now
being out on the
side where the
light is shining -

Affectionately

Wm. Barnes

✓
January 14th 1948.

Dear Mr. Spier.

There was a letter from
Mr. Tolson and I and I am sure
it is so many years of close and
cooperation with you a great and
valuable man. You are a man of

Now, may you enjoy happy moments &
I hope to be with you soon.
To you now.

I am glad to know that P. is with the
children as well as you.

With affection and love, we are
very gratefully and affectionately

Truly,



Dear Mrs. Spurr:

All these last weeks I have
been holding you in affectionate thought.
Dr. Spurr wrote one of the conclusions of our notes
for Father's 80th birthday in November.

Ruth lost her Father, Mrs. Biddle
last week. So we learn with you that loss
can be tempered with faith and with hope.
Affectionately
Thorton.

145 Hudson Terrace
Yonkers 3, New York

Christmas, 1947

Dear Friends:

Christmas is like a delicate carving by a great artist that makes our feelings visible. It lets us focus for a little while on the hope and the wonder that goes deeper than our present bewilderment.

Men everywhere are oppressed by a sense of futility, harassed by foreboding, in need of perspective, in need of deliverance from their own self-centeredness.

May the picture of Christmas bring you its great gift — the knowledge that God lives and rules, the awareness that every human being by virtue of his humanity may be responsive to beauty and good will, and the realization that to us as to adoring shepherds long ago Christ may be born again.

Your warm friends,

THORNTON AND RUTH PENFIELD
THORNTON, III AND CHARLOTTE

ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS
Wood-carving by Artist-Sculptor Alois Lang,
Christ Cathedral, Springfield, Massachusetts.

—Courtesy American Seating Company
Printed in U.S.A

5/12

Nov. 25

Mr. James A. Spear, Esq.
57 St. St.

Dear Mrs. Spear,

This brings
you my deepest
sympathy in your
great sorrow.

I hope you will
find comfort in
the thought that

your husband
has lived such
a rich, full life.
But for that very
reason he will be
missed all the
more.

Sincerely,

Jean Baker

WM. S. SCULL 2ND
AVON ROAD
BRYN MAWR, PA.

Mike and I both reached the same conclusion, and separately, that there was undoubtedly a block somewhere to the flow of God's energy. Mike was directed to the sore spot in prayer, while I'm afraid I just "plain" figured out it was Billy himself. Bill has absolutely no real feeling idea of the place and presence of Jesus. He can't understand why you can't go directly to the boss, and so the humility is lacking. I remember so well your pointing out that before Jesus healed, the people to be healed

fell down and worshipped him.

We both feel that not only
in Bile's present sickness but
in his life work to come that
this feeling of Jesus must an-
nihilate all other feelings. Some
are praying for a further spiritual
heightening in Bile's part and I
think Dr. Price can help greatly,
Mike and I are trying not to
pleasure, but to plant seeds rather.

Personally I am very disturbed
though I try hard not to be and
pray for guidance. The fact
that I am out of harmony with
my environment produces great
feelings of guilt in wake moments

MPM

My dear Mr. Speer.

My love to you and the
hope that some small word
Ginnie may help you some-
how.

Mr. Speer was a great person
and personality. We shall miss
him very much. But will not
forget his impression which

Thompson's sliplet was deep
and impressive to me and
to all who knew him. I like to
think that I had the privilege
of knowing him. Thompson
very sincerely.

Very affectionately

Holly H. Lewis

✓
Dear Mrs. Speer,

We would like to add
our tribute to Dr. Speer
and express our appreciation
and gratitude for the
privilege of knowing so
fine a character.

Since those wonderful
months at Diamond Pond,
you and Dr. Speer have been
a great influence for good

in our lives) as you were
our truly ideal Christian
family.

May you be kept in
perfect peace is our prayer
for you all.

Sincerely,

John and Anna Lange

P.S. You will be thankful,
as we are, that Sylvia seems
better. Yesterday and to-day
she went out alone to shop.

ALL.

December the Fourth.

✓ From George Loring -

EIGHTY-SEVEN MAPLE STREET
SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY

Dec 2nd 1947

My dear Mrs Speer,

Ever since I
heard that your dear husband
had been "taken home", I
have wanted to write to
you. But how well I know
the hundreds & hundreds of
letters & telegrams you will
have. But I felt I must
tell you again what a comfort
Dr Speer was to ~~me~~ when my George

left me so suddenly. You may remember he took part in the service for George. I entered the church wondering how I'd ever reach the pew, much less sit through the service. And then Dr. Speer spoke of "the new heaven & the new earth" & he gave such a comforting message as well as beautiful memories of George that I came out from the service with my dead need high & able to speak to all the friends who had come

from far & near & whom I
had so dreaded to see -

So I hope you, too, dear
Mrs Speer have had someone
who has helped you, & I know
the Que, our dear ones served
so faithfully, will prove
himself very real & dear
these days of loneliness -
But is not it strange to
have our men experiencing
some thing they cannot share
with us, We have always
been so ready to hear all
that happened on their last

trip. But, at least, they do not
have to carry on here without
us. "Eye hath not seen, ear
hath not heard, neither hath
it entered into the heart of
man what God has prepared
for those who love Him".

One of Dr. Speer's & George's mutual
friends wrote me the day Dr. Speer
was taken & said "what a reunion
George & his friend Robert are having
in heaven to-day" & at once I
thought "And what a joy for Elliot
to see his father". I did not mean
to write so much -
with very deepest understanding
sympathy. Yours very sincerely
Christina K. Irving

k



Dear Mrs. Speer,

Our hearts go out to you in a steady stream of love and sympathy. We know that God is "an ever present help" and that you are surrounded by devoted friends, but we too long to find some way of expressing our love for you.

I treasure the memory of every precious hour at Rockledge and especially the times when W. Speer was beside you giving us of his wisdom and generous interest. How wonderful that death is just the beginning - not the end!

Rosilla and I are
alone in her little House
at present. She sends
her love and will
will write to you
soon.

I am waiting now
for definite word from
Miss Shearman about
dates and Transporta-
tion. I wish you were
going with us!

With love, and deep gratitude
for your friendship which
means so much to me,
Florence T. Kirk



"Time like an ever-rolling stream
Bears all our sorrows away!"
And 'though we would we cannot
hold them here
With us to stay.

'Tis not for us to say "Hie me!"
And mourn that they have gone
Let us be glad instead of sad,
They hear our Lord's "Well done".

— " —

With tender and loving
sympathy, Isabelle H. W. Miller

326 West 22nd Street

~~Greenwich Village~~

MAY THE
PEACE AND JOY OF THE

SEASON

ABIDE WITH YOU ALL
THROUGH THE NEW YEAR

You will be seeing lovely memories of past Christmases reflected in your Christmas of this year, no doubt; - like the little reflections in the balls on this card; - but best of all is the sweet verse in Psalm 18 v. 28. "For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness."



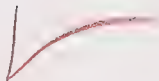
(), come to us amid this war of life;
To hall and hovel come; to all who toil
Come to them, blest and blessing,
Christmas Day.

Tell them once more the tale of Bethlehem;
The kneeling shepherds and the Babe Divine.
And keep them men indeed, fair Christmas Day

CHARLES KINGSLEY

Dear Mr. Green:- I am sure
you will be happy to hear that
both of Joe's boys are doing well
& have married lovely girls this
year - Josephine & Alice both
are living in Redwood - & I
am making my home temporarily
with Josephine - All 4 of the
young people & families are to have
Xmas with me at Josephine's
new home - This is the first
time in 10 yrs. that we have
all been together on Xmas -
I trust you & yours are all
well & may have a reunion
this year. Always best wishes
from us all Alice E. Cook

52



Mrs. Charles Bennett Brown

Dear Aunt Emma -
Charlie and I
were shocked to read
of Uncle Rob's death
and we send you
and your children our
very deepest sympathy.

You and Uncle
Rob had such a
gloriously long and
full life together -
you must have many
wonderful memories
which will surely be
a comfort in time.

I haven't seen Uncle
Rob for many years,
but I always thought
of him as someone
extra fine and I know
that thought was
shared by many.

Affectionately
Mary Duffee Brown

✓
My dear Mrs Spear-

It is with such deep
distress that I learned this
week of your loss of Dr.

Spear - one of the finest
men I have ever known,
whose life has been a con-

2
tremendous inspiration to every
one. May I send you and
your family my love and
very heartfelt sympathy.

It made me so happy
last winter to have a little
visit on the train with Dr.
Spicer, and to talk of old
times in Englewood.

3/

It was a great loss to have
you move away. We have
all missed you so much
through these years.

When I heard you had
brought Dr. Spurr to Burke-
side I had a feeling he
was home again with all

of us, when loved him
and a desired him to
much. I often dream through
this. Let me know if I can
ever do anything for you.

With again a heart full
of sympathy -

Affectionately yours

Henry Carbonell

Nov. 18, 1884 -

✓ 27 November 1947

MRS. ERNEST RAYMOND ALEXANDER
234 WEST 139TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Mrs Robert E Speer:

Dear Mrs Speer:

I'm so thankful this
day that I have had the pri-
vilege of knowing you and
especially, knowing your
husband!

You are lovely today

without him—and so are
we all who knew him
but I'm sure we—and you
too—will have the feeling that
he is still with us.

Your loss is great but
your memories will be
sustaining.

Yours Truly with great
sympathy,

William Alexander

✓
MRS. STANLEY WHITE
311 EAST 72ND STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

12/20/47

My dear Mrs. White,
I have been confined
to my bed for the past two
months & could not send you
the message I would have liked.
I want you to know
of my thoughts for you in these

Good days, & yet days full
of deep spiritual understanding
& gratitude. Wonderful
memories, & a realization of
a spiritual companionship
which is very real.

I love to think of my
husband as still guiding

the spiritual work of the
tasks he so loved here on
earth. Dr. Speer's work is
still going on in the hearts &
lives of the many who looked to
him for guidance & comfort.

May you have physical
strength for the tasks ahead.

Very truly yours

Henrietta H. Threlkeld

The Misses Seiler

123 State Street -

Dear Emma

Garcia and I want
to send our deepest
sympathy to you and
your family for your
great loss -

Doctor Spurr was
interested in so many
things he will be
greatly missed.

We both admired him
very much and feel
we have lost a
real friend -

With warmest love
from us both -

Thursday - Sue Seiler

6 Fountain Terrace :: Scarsdale, N. Y. Feb-4, 1948-

Dear Mrs. Speer, so often I allow my husband's inclusive "Mrs. Young & I" do my speaking for me - and more often - my writing. (Not at all an attribute of the usual Y.W.C.A. person is it?) However, we have always been so mutual in our deep appreciation of your wonderful husband that I again let him speak to you for us both

at the time of Mr. Spear's leaving.

To-day in Y. W. board meeting the memorial minute you wrote and which was read by the Secretary, has prompted me to write to you. It is only to say how much we (for I know there are others) appreciate what you do for us - by saying the things you say - by writing the things you write and by being what you are. "Continue in your prayers for us - as we do for you in gratitude - Charles E. Young."

Mr. William H. French

Feb 5/48

✓
My dear Mrs Spurr:

In our letter,
book "The Upper Room"
for Jan'y 25, I was
so thrilled to read
the message from
your hand, & a
fine illustration
of what Dr. Spurr

like will be able
to do through the
mess. I thought you
would like to see

this message in
the letter book. I hope
you are keeping
well this bad winter.
Please write the book, let
it be a kiss and much love
Affectionately Thos W. Good

Sunday

BALLYMENA
LAKEVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Dear Mrs. Speer —

Hamilton

+ I want to send you
our deepest sympathy
and understanding
in your sad loss. Such

splendid men as Dr.
Speer are always
greatly missed - we
have always been
so sorry we did not
know him - and
you - better. +
we hope, come

in some time and see
you - meanwhile we
shall think of you
often -

Affectionately -
Elizabeth Fole

✓
Jan 4 1881
Dear Mrs. Speer,

How constantly
ly Ned and I have been
thinking of you this
week, remembering
the wonderful associa-
tions of the years. I
shall never forget how
Mr. Speer was think-
ing of our happiness.

writing me of Ned's
return to this country,
and hoping that we
might meet again here
after our first meeting
in Constantinople. With
all the mighty matters
which he carried on
his mind and heart,
I was very grateful to
him for this. The
word "thanksgiving"
describes the way the

all feel. My memory
goes back to the day
when you visited us
in our Russian home,
to the happy associations
in Englemood when we
visited at Rosevick, and
to the Board room
when I was a student
secretary.

I am so glad for
you that after sharing
here with the whole

would you had these
blessed years together
since his so called
"retirement."

With tenderest sym-
pathy and deep affec-
tion.

Rose Wilson Dodd

November 30, 1947.

My dear Mrs Speer

✓ I feel I must
tell you I am thinking
of you all loving you
and hope that the
affection of your many
friends will help you
through this time of
separation. I hope you
will not answer this

note for I know how
many expressions of
sympathy you will receive,
but I feel I must let
you know how much you
were in my mind.

I see & remember what
an ideal life and home
you and Mr. Speer had
together, and how very

fine he was in every way.

Sincerely

Richard M. M. M.

Lucas

Mabel T. Everett

My dear Mrs. Speer:

I want
to send you my sympathy
and affectionate greetings
at this time. It was with
a feeling of deep sorrow
and of a personal loss
that I read of Dr. Speer's
death in the paper. He
will be missed the wide

world around!

Affectionately yours,
Reabel Everett

Walpole, Nears.

December 1947

801 So Graveny Drive
Los Angeles 5 Calif
11/27/44

My dear dear Mrs Speer.

Just to add my note of
affection. Ethel Lyfmoor spoke of
a lovely visit with you last
month! but nothing of Dr Speer's
being at. Hence the announce-
ment in yesterday paper was
most unexpected. How many
people will be in shame to greet
his arrival. not only your son
but thousands who are there
because of him. where he loved
to hear and follow. Sincerely
Annette Weston

~~The Love of God~~

My dear Mrs. Spier.

My heart has been
with you all the days of this
week as you are facing
the first pain & loss that
comes from separation.
I know that deeper than

any sense of loss is the
vivid experience of the res-
urrection and the recog-
nition of the triumph of
a life that has been
given not only for family
& friends & his nation

but for a world. People
of all the world are prais-
ing God for His Spirit and
are taking courage to face
their responsibilities
because of His life and
His faith and His example.

I shall be asking God
for peace and strength for the
next days for you & your
family. And I send you
my special love.

Affectionately

Harry Jones Elliot

November twenty nine.

Mr. Howard White

Dear Sir

My very dear Emma;

Please accept our
deepest sympathy in your
great sorrow.

It must be some comfort
to you to know that your
husband's influence will live

on in the world, through the
many people who have known
him and the many more who
have heard him and the
multitudes whose lives have
been indirectly touched by his.

We love you, and
we know you will find

strength to bear your
parting from your beloved,
With tender affection,
Eleanor D. White.

November 30, 1947.

Jan. 22nd.

Mrs. W. Reginald Wheeler

114 East 84th Street New York City 28

Dearest dear Mrs. Speer: I have wanted
to write, to write to you.
Two weeks before your beloved went
to Heaven, I started again (for another
year) reading his beautiful devotional
book "Five Minutes a Day". The night
Dr. Speer left us, I dreamed of one
of my two dear sons in Heaven.
I do not often dream about them.
I went Faith Ulagie & John, two such

2
simpler & beautiful people, Dr. Speer
tells back for Christ yes.

Faith ~~was~~ ^{is}:- The book is already
one of our outstanding spiritual
treasures. We are revelling in it.
I think it has an unusual number
of beautiful prayers & poems of great
inspirational value.

Dr. Speer is very strongly with us.
What a truly great Christian
exercise he was, in addition to
all the other outstanding gifts,
with which he was endowed.

His sense of humor was very, as
when Rex was asking him what
he thought of Henry Thelwell (last
year) and he replied: "Henry Thelwell,
not!"

You will miss your life-long
companion, so very dear and
close to you.

He will be very near you at all
times, to bless and lift you up

and that is a joyful reflection. But
the "missing" is hard. That I know from
young Rex, with his very warm and
loving personality.

To have lived in this time, to have
known and loved Dr. Spear and you,
is one of our greatest blessings and
joys. Rex can scarcely get along without
Dr. Spear. He often says: "I must be
free of this."

My heart overflows with love for
you. Yours devoted Connie.

✓
November 26, 1947

Dear Mrs Spear:-

At this time of sorrow,
we think lovingly of you -
and rejoice that Mr Spear's
influence for Christ still
lives on in the hearts of
the thousands he helped
through his friendship,

his public addresses, his
writings and word of all
through his own noble
character.

Sincerely yours

Theodora Culver Gleytzen
(Mrs. Wm Henry Gleytzen)

Dear Mrs. Speer.

Robert E. Speer seemed like a revelation to me as a College Freshman. Year after year, he inspired me. His life was always and everywhere a reminder that we are made in the image of God.

Such a life is not lost to us. There will be a vacant place but it will remind us all of one who worked with God.

Very Sincerely
Wm H. Daysteen



In Front of Old Pardee



REPRODUCED FROM AN ORIGINAL WOOD ENGRAVING
DONE FOR LAFAYETTE COLLEGE
BY WARREN B. MACK, A. N. A.
LAFAYETTE '15, PH. B., '46, SC. D.



Dear Mrs. Speer,

Our real love to you
with such a consciousness
ness of our great loss
in the "Homegoing" of
dear Dr. Speer, his
gain but the whole
world's loss.

Harriet Hutchison

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Cooper Hutchison

send hearty Christmas Greetings
to you

and to all friends of

Lafayette College

✓
53 EAST AVENUE
NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

Jan. 27th.

Dear Mrs. Spear:

The glimpse that I had of you
at the December Board meeting did
not give me the chance to say to you
the word that has been in my
heart to say since Mr. Spear's
death. It is a word of congratulation.
I know no more expressive word -

I thanksgiving with you for the long
and beautiful life you have led
together, for the wonderful family
relationships, for the great work
and influence you have shared
with him - and then for these
quiet years of retirement with the
richness that I am sure has been
in them - and finally for the
end that came before the failure
of physical and mental powers
brought more pain and sorrow to
you both.

How can one be other than profoundly
grateful to God for such a rich
treasure of memories, for such world-
wide friendships, for this wonderful
power that has been received and
passed on for the blessing of countless

live! May the unspeakable
comfort of His Holy Spirit sustain
and strengthen you in these
inevitably lonesome days - and keep
you constantly the assurance of
the love and the life that is eternal.

With deep affection,

Yours truly,

Josephine Lowell Emerson.

Tuesday
November 25

My dear Mrs. Speer -

The sad news in this morning's papers will bring grief to all of the Pine Grove friends who have crowded our little Chapel each summer for the past twelve years to hear Dr. Speer preach for us one of his wonderful sermons. It brings particular sorrow to me, who have been associated with him

through the years, in a three-
fold way — at Pine Grove; at
School, where he gave our first
Commencement Address; and in
the Lehigh Valley County Ymca. In
all of these places he will be
missed, but the memory of his
strong and vivid personality will
remain with us always.

We express particular sym-
pathy to you, but we know
that you will be surrounded
by the double circle of your

Christian faith, and of
the friendship of your thou-
sands of associates down
through the years.

Sincerely yours,

Jane W. Doddard

HS

November 25, 1947.
Oct 21.
21 Claremont Ave.
New York 27. N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Spear:

This little note will assure
you of my thought and sincere
sympathy in your bereavement.
may God comfort you and give
you strength. Your radiant faith
always has been an inspiration
to me ever since I have known
you, and especially in times of testing.

Affectionately yours,
Pauline Hermann.

Dec 2, 1947

✓
My dear Mrs. Speer:

I mailed to you this morning a note expressing my deepest sympathy and my own sad feeling of personal loss. I however inadvertently addressed it to Lakewood instead of to Lakeville, so you will not receive it. I will not try to repent, but I don't want any more time to go by without your knowing how sincerely I feel for you. It must be a

comfort, as the mail comes in to
you. from everywhere, how much so
many many of us loved your dear
husband as a man and loved him as
a personal friend. Did you ever know
anyone whose healing touch, so much
like the Master's, had reached to so
many lines in every part of this big world!

I hope that you have been given
the physical strength for this terrible
strain; and that some of your dear children
have been able to ~~be~~ ^{near you} ~~be~~ ^{near you}
Affectionately Robert M. LaHaree



Lake Bluff, Ill. - Dec. 24 - 1947-

Dear Mrs. Speer;-

I have just returned from Mexico City where I went to attend the 41st Annual Jubilee of Presbyterian Work in Mexico. As no papers were forwarded I only learned once my return of the death of Robert, Nov. 23rd at Bryn Mawr. The notice in The Presbyterian spoke of his entering the hospital there for a routine check-up, and of "having died quietly during the night". Now that the shock of not being with him when "he slept in the Lord" is over, I want you to know that my thoughts and prayers have been very much with you during this Christmas Season.

We were both young men when I joined my father at Zacatecas on the missionary field and your husband was called to the much more responsible position of Secretary of our Board. From that time he addressed me as "Will" and I reciprocated with "Robert". His influence among the young people in our schools was incalculable -

The last time I heard him speak was at Montreat and he spoke with his old power

The world was made richer because of his life.

Please convey to your daughter, Mary Ann whom I
last saw in Yenching University, to Mrs. Barbour and
to William my sincerest sympathies in our common
loss. With best wishes for a New Year, enriched
with compensatory blessings -

Very sincerely

Will Wallace

Shadowlawn
1302 Taylor Street
Corinth, Mississippi

May 15, 1949

Dear Mrs. Speer,

I think of you
everyday I do believe and
can picture you back at
"Rockledge". Do you have
a gathering place, as usual?
Wonder if Toni and Alie
are with you. Katie is
still my staid by.
She is in the throes of
having her teeth removed
and will eventually

Shadowlawn
1302 Taylor Street
Corinth, Mississippi

have a plate, I suppose.
She is still an inspiration
to me.

Remember me in your
prayers and know that I
love you very much,
Triscilla

My dear Mr. Spear
We have just completed 3
Fourth Steps, December is our
separate year year - you Mr. Spear
was with us and his presence
and teaching was inspiring &
invaluable, Dr. Walter Burton
was with us then and then you
he spoke of Mr. Spear. But the
many times we have been
in our very hearts this community
continues.

It is Christmas time and
we put that way - when you have
your own - but also send your
blessings to us - wish for your special
God's richest blessings these festive days

Sincerely, Ralph A. Ogden

"A CHRISTMAS WISH"

I AM THINKING OF YOU TODAY, BECAUSE IT IS CHRISTMAS. AND I WISH
YOU JOY. AND TOMORROW, BECAUSE IT IS THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, I
SHALL WISH YOU JOY. MAYHAP I CANNOT TELL YOU ABOUT IT FROM DAY
TO DAY, FOR YOU MAY BE FAR AWAY, OR WE MAY BE ENTANGLED WITH
THE THINGS OF LIFE. BUT IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE - MY THOUGHTS AND
MY WISH WILL BE WITH YOU. WHATEVER OF JOY OR SUCCESS COMES TO
YOU, I SHALL BE GLAD. CLEAR THROUGH THE YEAR, WITHOUT PRETENSE,
I WISH YOU THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.

HENRY VAN DYKE

THE WAGGONERS

HOUSE OF HAPPINESS

SEDALIA, MISSOURI

(over)

LONDON OFFICE: SPEEDWELL 1660

BARNFIELD TOP,
BAYLEY'S HILL,
SEVENOAKS, KENT.

TELEPHONE (TOLL) WEALD 270.

September 30th., 1948

Dear Mrs Speer,

I simply cannot tell you what joy your letter has given me. It arrived today and I write at once! To know that my beloved husband is still remembered by some of you, and remembered with such love and respect, gives me greater joy than anything else in the world could. I remember many years ago being at dinner, I think at the Rufus Jones' in Haverford West, where to my astonished delight I found that every guest remembered Hudson and had been to his lectures. But this was, as I have said, many years ago and I had hardly dared to hope that his name was still remembered among you. Even though I know that, long after the names of speakers are forgotten, something of what they stood for remains with those who heard them - if what they said was of real moment, as in the case of my husband it certainly was. I have his photograph before me now and wish so much that I could show him your letter. Perhaps he knows. You see, he loved America and Americans so much and took such real delight in his work among you - and in after years in my work too - that I know how much he would be moved by reading what you say.

I remember that I almost trembled to tell him that I had been asked to go again to America in the early part of the war, when the U boats danger was very serious, and I feared he would beg me not to risk it. I felt I ought to ^{do} and feared the division of opinion between us; but I need not have feared. He dreaded my incurring such danger of course, but he was clear at once that it was

my duty to go. I am afraid that if it had been any other country that I was to visit he would by no means have been so clear!

I have just been listening to American Commentary on the Radio and think we are fortunate in the men chosen for this job. The situation sounds pretty grim but it is good to know that, whatever internal quarrels you have you are as a nation solid behind the foreign policy on which so much of the well-being of the world depends.

Will you give my love to Margaret when you are writing? I often wish that I could see you both and have a talk.

Yours with deepest gratitude,

Maude Royden Shaw



YALL FORD
YOUNG

Winter Brook

Dear Mr. Spier -

I was surprised and much disturbed to hear the day before I left Sabreville of the death of Dr. Spier. I had no idea he had even been ill -

No one can quite realize what his

going must mean to
you -

For some time I have
had a little book of
devotions. "Five minutes
a Day", which he compiled.
In it I keep a little
anglo-Franco-Canadian
Calendar given me by
Mrs. Spur. B. & L. Kees
have meant a good
deal to me.

I can only add

I hat & have I thought
of you all with much
sympathy. Dr. Spier
certainly lived an un-
usual life.

With much love

Elizabeth Hobbs -

Exeter, New Hampshire
November 30th

The sketch rather re-
sembles the scenery
here this morning.

✓
ARTHUR J. BROWN
1238 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 28, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Nov. 24, 1947

Words cannot express my emotion as I learn of dear Robert's translation. I can only bow in prayer for you, and thank God for a life so richly fruitful in blessing to his fellowmen. At fourscore, serene in faith and radiant in love, he heard his Savior's voice: Son, thy Father calleth thee. So he arose and went calmly forth, his hand in the hand of God. We who loved him know where he has gone and that we shall see him again. Meanwhile, "underneath are the everlasting arms", and they do not fail us in the time of our utter need. Eleanor joins me in affectionate remembrance of you, and in prayer that you and your son and daughters may have the peace and comfort of God.

Arthur J. Brown

✓ E.P.S.

Mrs. Samuel Scoville, Jr.

Jan 1882

Rutland, Vermont.

Emma dear,

My heart aches
for you, for your
loneliness is almost
unbearable, and
yet I know how
brave you will be
for the sake of
your other dear ones
who are surrounding
you with their love.
Rob has had a
wonderful life, and
has lived so close
to his Heavenly Father
that it was only a
short step into his heav.

only Home where your
other dear children
were waiting to meet him.
When I return from
Vermont, I want to come
to see you, for you and
Rob have always been very
dear to me. With deep
love & understanding sympathy
your longtime friend
Katharine.

Miss Hattie R. MacCurdy
119 East 29th Street, New York 16
Telephone MUrray Hill 3-0566

October 28

Dear Mrs. Speer,

When you were here in the spring you suggested that I make a copy of "Confucian Temple, Peking" as it was one that you wanted to buy. I have now made a copy, and the original is ready for you, if you still want it. You also said that you would like to look again at one of a Temple in Korea. I think this is # 4 in the catalogue, but I am quite sure that I have the right one ready to show you when it is convenient.

for you, for that day I
put these two at once in a
parcel by themselves and
marked them. Perhaps
you will be in New York on
your way to Bryn Mawr -
if that is your plan for
the winter months. I can
imagine the beauty of the
autumn foliage from the
windows of your much loved
Rockledge home, and you
want to be there as long as
possible.

I have been thinking

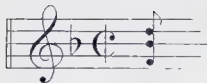
of these past few days a
year ago, and Thanking ^{God}
again for His great work in
and through Dr. Spear and for
the greater life he is now in,
and that lies ahead of us.

I know your own courage
and faith brought strength
to many people.

I look forward to seeing
you again,

With loving greetings

Hattie R. MacCurdy



Just a Note

Dearest dear

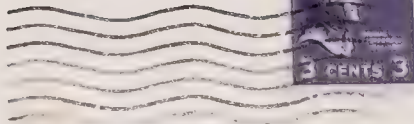
Am I space. Thank

Mrs John C. Williams,
152 Grove St.
Cambridge, Mass.
12th Oct.

You is very much obliged - Copy of
Robert E. Space. I shared it with
my dear Lucretia friend. Seal
Thomson & Mullerley She is very
glad to have it. This summer

my friend Mrs Helen R. Best.
is sharing my home with me.
her husband is one of Jack's
dearest friends. so she and I
have made it to father. I
hope you and Margaret are
somewhere together. perhaps
in your own home in
Rockledge? I know only too well.
the lonely road. but our children
do help as much. It was hard to
say farewell to Robert. and to
Ed Reifer Jones. that grand
old, my sis (88 yrs)

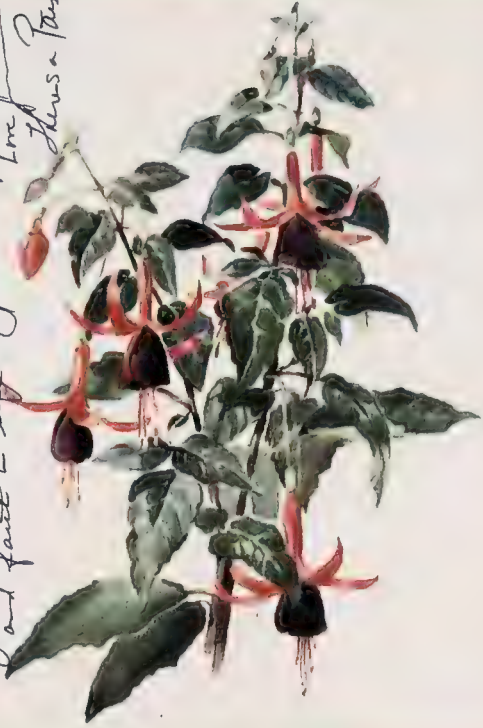
I hope some day you will
come to see me here. I keep
well, and I have many mercies.
Bill + Mary are happy & this mother
the children ^{Bill + Mary} who is 17. is
coming home in Aug. to enter
Derford Academy. Yours truly
Wm. C. Williams



Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
825 Montgomery Ave —
Bryn Mawr —
Penn —

Mrs. F. M. Paest
Hacienda Hotel.
New Port Richey
Fla.

Hold Hara-hu - Her Port Pickney Fla - to Morrow.
Just to this life - give me courage -
and faith to life of the spirit -
Love
Theresa Port



12/19/48 -
Sebring, Florida.

Dear Emma -

I'm thinking of you
especially at this Christmas
time. In Miami - we called on
our Pastor Emeritus Dr. Schall-
and he gave me the Princeton
Review I wish its tribute to
your Robert. It seemed to
give me just the lift I
needed - and made me
realize how truly he lives
in the hearts and lives of
countless people to-day -
tho' his "resting from his
labors".

The way in which you are sustained by God's power is a constant witness to -

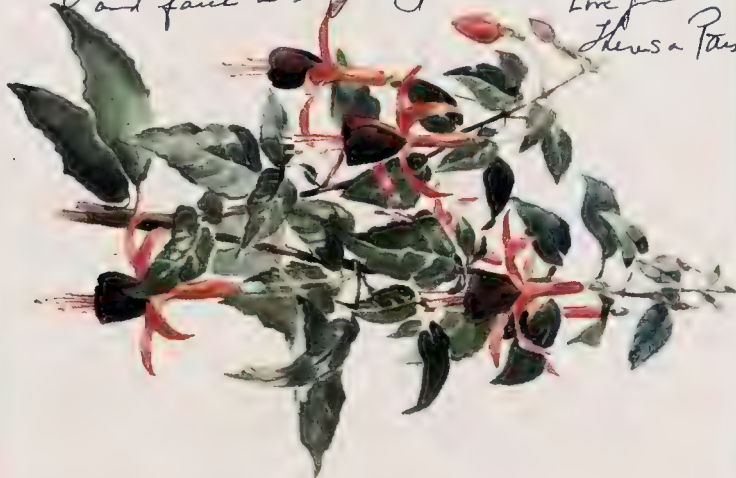
Here had some rugged living this past year - as you know Theresa - did every possible thing for her Bot only to see her sent down and down - so she got the interlocking decree - and came to us - For the present the shock of it seems to have sobered Bot - and his trying so hard to prove he can succeed - But as yet he doesn't seem to have grasped the truth that only a new century of

life - a new attitude, what we know
 is a new birth - is necessary -
 We can't keep having hope - There
 has kept wonderfully sweet by the
 power of God -

Our dear Frances - doesn't seem
 herself. She is deeply hurt - and
 concerned for her daughter - She is
 in our big house for the present -
 Fortunately the house of Gubate
 and Horace are very happy -

Fred soon taken - suddenly ill
 Nov 1 - and we got to South as
 soon as possible. This much better - but
 trace his still pathetically frail - but gallant
 in spirit. There is the south us - for our
 the holidays - Will reach our season's home

Hotel Hacienda - New Port Pichey Fla - to morrow.
 Just to that I - give me courage -
 and faith to life - Love from
 Theresa Parry



"The Christmas Story"



Our thoughts are with you often as we recall Robert's annual visits to us as he was speaking at the Massanetta Conferences. That visit was the high light of the year in our home.

We hope you are having a comfortable winter; and that some day we may meet you again. We have had pleasant memories of our meeting with you in Jimmy Sprunt's Lynchburg home.



May the Joy of Christmas be yours forever,
Today, Tomorrow and Always



Dr. and Mrs. Edward Mack

Burybrook Farms

Orauga.

Va

620 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

December 13th 1947

My dear Mrs Spear. Louise is in Saint Luke's Hospital, for an operation to remove an intestinal obstruction and so cannot write to you. We both send you our love and sympathy; admiration for the consecrated lives of you both makes us blend our sorrow with thankfulness that we have had the inspiration of your friendship and your noble examples.

We have known and revered
Robert for more than half a
Century, as a great leader in
the greatest cause in the world,
the campaign to advance the
Kingdom of God.

The beauty of his face,
so rugged and so kind, the
strength of his eloquence,
always enlisted enthusiastic
supporters in the campaign to
spread the Gospel of Christ.

Thank God for his life!

Affectionately
Jm Jay Schiffelin

THE MANSE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AMENIA, DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Our hearts
go out to you in sorrow at this
time. We had not heard of Dr.
Speer's illness and so the word of
his going was all the more of a
shock to us. Somehow his going
seems like the end of an era.
Multitudes of my generation owe so
much to his spiritual leadership.
What a glorious life of service he
has had! One of my elderly parishioners
made the remark, when word of his
going reached us, - "He was a God-filled
man if ever there was one!" - to which
we can all say "Amen"!

We will be thinking of you and praying
for you in the lonely days ahead. May
God bless you and keep you! Please
share this with Miss Margaret.

Sincerely
The Van Wusems.

Community House.

Burton Road
Dear Emma Steer: Bradford.

May 27.

My thoughts have been with you this
Easter time and I am enclosing one of the
Warden's pamphlets which perhaps you
have not seen. - She has been "laid
low" for the past ^{2 months} ~~6 weeks or more~~ the
result of her overdoing - her besetting
sin - She was so eager to give us
the amazing lessons she was receiving
that she poured out the teaching in
a haphazard way - These lectures - in
her little hut - which she never leaves
now - on top of prodigious work, in
her garden - & 4 or 5 - Mrs. Welling

a day,

have been too much of a strain on
his heart - so we have ^{request} no classes

with her, ^{but} she is receiving & passing on to us &
to all who will receive; some very great

messages - She says she has never had so
much to give - & that she is helping us all
more now than ever before. Sister Margaret

The Sub. Warden calls her every day - & reads

us the messages she sends by her - and also
we take in Meditations ^{in the classes (15 minutes each)} The Warden is taking

So this has been a very fruitful as

well as a very busy time - with ~~the~~ a

regular rhythm in the days work that

makes the time fly - and enough

discipline (!) to ~~keep~~ make + keep one
humble!

I am happy to sail on the Queen
Elizabeth - April 22 - & will join Carl
in Bloomington where he has been
struggling with a variety of complications

Before we left - we agreed to take about
8 or 9 couples (mostly "Veterans" - on the University Wesleyan staff -
chiefly on the 3rd floor -
into our house - & the 3 other houses

in our lot - So I shall be coming home to
a full house -

I am wondering if you have given back
to fields of the threats in your own home
or if you are still with your daughter?

I am so grateful that good & good men of yours
sent so that helped with this most beautiful
prayer & relations. I treasure it - & will

Read it again this afternoon of Easter.

With heartfelt wishes which are
prayers for special Easter joy for you.

As we.

Julia H.

Your name and that of your husband are
on the prayer list here - next week day after
day - in the intercession class.

Thank you
for the
invitation
to visit

MRS. CLELAND B. MCAFEE
735 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY, MASS.

Oct 2
1918.

My dear friend:

I will wait
eagerly for your
call by phone and
will look forward
with much pleasure
to seeing you. Our
sending this off in a
hurry - so you will
pardon I am so sure
to become you any
time you decide to
come. If you could

Stay over night, I
could take care of
you. Wednesday, this
are the some time
before. - But any
other day, I would
love to have you stay
of night - & your
friend too -

Therese T. Miller
Therese B. Miller

Therese T. Miller

24.41.

BROAD STREET STATION BUILDING
1617 PENNSYLVANIA BOULEVARD

PHILADELPHIA 4, PA.

May 14, 1948

My dear Mrs. Speer:

Your note of the 10th was received and is very much appreciated. I knew my Aunt Rebekah and have been brought up in the atmosphere of both the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., and can appreciate your high regard for her.

Aside from the guidance and direction of my father and my uncle Richard C., for whom I was named, I doubt that there is anyone who had more influence in my early student days than Robert E. Speer, John R. Mott, G. Campbell Morgan and D. L. Moody.

It was always a great occasion in our home when Dr. Speer and Dr. Mott were guests, and their influence is felt today in many more ways than you and I can imagine. My only hope is that there are men coming on to continue that influence.

With kindest personal regards,

As ever, sincerely,

Reinorse

Mrs. Emma Bailey Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

YALE-IN-CHINA ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES

Herster Barres, '32
Elizabeth S. Bixler, '27 N.
James W. Clise, '22 S.
Henry Sloane Coffin, '97
Arthur Bliss Dayton, '11 S.
William C. DeVane, '20
Curtis P. Fields, '14
Henry Fletcher, '98
Ralph H. Gabriel, '13
S. Ellsworth Grumman, '13
Reuben A. Holden IV, '40
Edward H. Hume, '97
Francis S. Hutchins, '33 M.A.
George A. Kennedy, Faculty
Kenneth S. Latourette, '06
Edwin C. Lobenstine, '95

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Anson Phelps Stokes, '96
Samuel Thorne, '96

INCORPORATED



Participating in

HUA CHUNG COLLEGE
THE YALI UNION MIDDLE SCHOOL
THE HSIANG-YA MEDICAL COLLEGE
HOSPITAL AND NURSING SCHOOL

OFFICERS

Henry Sloane Coffin, '97, President
Luther A. Weigle, '05, Ph.D., Vice-President
Francis S. Hutchins, '33 M.A., Vice-President
Dwight D. Rugh, '36 Ph.D.,
Representative of the Board in China
W. Reginald Wheeler, '11, Executive Secretary
Lauren Arnold, '16 S., Treasurer
Rachel A. Dowd, Recording Secretary
and Assistant Treasurer

AMERICAN OFFICE

117 Wall Street, New Haven, Conn.

Mail: 905A Yale Station
Telephone: New Haven 7-3131 - Ext. 554

January 29, 1948
(Dictated January 22, 1948)

Mrs. Robert Speer
Lakeville
Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I appreciated very much your suggestion that a copy of the "Woman's Press" for January 1948, containing an article about Dr. Speer by Dr. John R. Mott, be sent to me here. I have read the article with warm interest. I have not seen any statement yet which really does justice to Dr. Speer's extraordinary service, but it must be a comfort to you to see these tributes from friends of his, who are trying to express something of their admiration and love for him and what he meant to them.

Connie and I were present at the Memorial Service held in New York in the First Presbyterian Church and rejoiced in the tributes paid to Dr. Speer by Dr. Mackay and the other two speakers. Connie said she had the feeling that both Dr. Speer and Elliott were near us during the service and that they understood and appreciated the motives that led to the holding of the meeting.

I wrote to Dr. Mackay, President of the Board, stating again my feeling, which has been strengthened as time has gone on that there should be a biography of Dr. Speer. You know the correspondence I had with him concerning such a book, and you know his repeated statement of opinion against the writing of such a volume. I admire him for his genuine modesty and understand entirely why he should express himself as he did. He also said he would be opposed to any memorial service. Nevertheless, I think it was right that a service was held at which his friends could express their love and admiration.

On January 12 I wrote Dr. Mackay in regard to that service and also stated again my feeling and hope that a biography about Dr. Speer could be written. I wrote Dr. Mackay as follows:

That was a beautiful tribute you paid to Dr. Speer at the Memorial Service in the Fifth Avenue Church last month...I am sure that Dr. Speer understood and appreciated the admiration and affection you were expressing in his behalf for us all. I agree with you in your initial tribute to his character. From the standpoint of ability

and nobility of spirit, I think he was the greatest man I have ever known. "We shall not look upon his like again."

Several times I spoke to him about his writing his autobiography, and when he refused to consider that suggestion, asked for his consent of my attempting a biography. Here again he refused. His attitude was refreshing at a time when so many other men were seeking publicity and write-ups; nevertheless, I think his biography should be written and, if no one else is available, I would like very much to attempt it. His life spanned nearly half of the full century of the Foreign Mission Service of our church, which he himself helped to lead and mold; he was an outstanding leader in our own church; he was a world leader in inter-denominational service; he was an author with a prodigious output with thirty-seven books and thousands of addresses. He himself wrote seven or eight biographies. All these facts point towards the value and need of someone writing his biography and I would like very much to attempt it. But whether or not this is possible will depend on future events and the demands of my own work. I have my hands full at present with the Yale-in-China administration and promotion. But I wanted you to know of this matter, which has been very much on my mind and heart.


I do not want to press this matter now, if it does not fit in with your own feelings and wishes; but I have heard a number of opinions expressed, supporting the idea that a permanent biography and record should be prepared, including excerpts from his wonderful letters; and I wanted to bring this matter to you and will, of course, follow your own preferment in the situation.

I am leaving for California according to the present schedule February 16. We will be out there approximately two months, working for Yale-in-China. We have kept our apartment at 114 East 84th Street, New York, until we know more definitely about living arrangements in New Haven. Connie will probably go with me, and we will close the apartment so I suggest that you write to me at the above address when you have time to do so.

I want to thank you for your very beautiful and brave letter, and you know I want to do whatever is right in this whole matter.

Connie joins me in love and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



W. Reginald Wheeler

Dec. 29, 1947

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Ever since the news came of your Robert's "going on before" I have been thinking of you a great deal. Hundreds of people, I know, have been writing you about him and his place in Christian history, and they can all say better than I the tributes we all feel. But only those who have experienced the separation of death can fully understand what it means to the person left behind.

Now as we come up to the end of the year I am filled with the memory of my acute suffering at certain periods, and wishing I

might offer at least some understanding for the dragging hours and sharp crises of loneliness which come to one. New Year's Eve was one such time for me. In the midst of the first Watch Night Service after James' death I was suddenly gripped by the feeling that I could not let go of the year that still had held him here, I could not go on alone into a year in which he had no human part. It was a desolate night, and I know you must have them, too, in other forms, no matter how deep and strong your ultimate faith surely is. The human part of us beats against the bars even when we know that the separation is only for a short time.

Mrs. James M. Speers :: 180 Walnut Street :: Montclair, New Jersey

I think it must be much harder — as I have often thought it for Mrs. Finley — for you who have had so much longer common life together, so that all adulthood is knitted into each other. I had had great loneliness before as well as after, and in one ^{way} the loneliness after has been easier than before, because those rich years of marriage changed for me an undertone of frustration to one of completion which has never failed me. In the months after James' death I found how marvellously the well-springs of our married life continued to supply me,

even when flooding over into tears.
And of course, as you know full well,
that was only possible because our
love, as yours, had a deeper source
than just ourselves.

It seems presumptuous for me
to talk like this to you who know
the sources of spiritual strength so
much more deeply than I, but
I am sure you will not think it
so. Warmth of spirit comes to all
of us from understanding shared.

I had written thus far when
your card and beautiful enclosure
came to me today. How lovely that
Patty could be with you for a
short time! I suppose you are stay-

Mrs. James M. Speers :: 180 Walnut Street :: Montclair, New Jersey

ing with Margaret at present. Those are wonderful quotations, and the prayer and those longer selections make a beautiful memorial. What grand men we both had - to live with! I think I like to remember your Robert best as we used to see him on our little summer visits to Lakeville, when, puffed up with consuming pride, he could hardly wait to show us the triumphs of his garden! I find such memories much more overpowering than the so-called greater aspects of our dear ones.

Some of my struggles went

into poetry, and some into sculpture, and I thought of sending you something of these. But each person has to work out her own way of meeting suffering, and I'm not sure my way would be any help.

All I can do is to send you my deepest love and the assurance of my prayers -

Affectionately always,

Hellie Speers.

50 East 10th St
New York, N. Y.
Dec. 24, 1907

Dear Aunt Emma

I am in New York for a few days for a little change and relaxation from duties at home. I hope among other things which I have left undone to write letters which I have for a long time wanted to do but somehow find difficult these days at home with so many interruptions. You have been so much on my mind and heart this past month since your great loss of Uncle Rob in November. I just cannot find words adequate enough to tell you what I really feel in my heart but I do want you to know that my thoughts and sympathies have been with you in such a loss so hard to bear. I am glad that you and Uncle Rob have had this great fortune to have been able to ~~be~~ getting for so many years, ^{shared} a long happy married life.

Mother has been very upset and talks so often of Uncle Rob of what a wonderful man and life long friend he has been. She wishes she could

do something for you and it is hard
to see her wanting to do things and yet
not being able to do them anymore. She
treasures your friendship and Uncle
Rob so much. Every now and again
she will bring out a book to show us
that Uncle Rob had written & sent to her.
She was pleased that many went to
the memorial service for Uncle Rob
and only wished she could have been there
too. Many said it was a beautiful
service and showed that Uncle Rob
meant so much to people in all walks
of life all over the world and how
much he will be missed by all who
knew him.

We had a very quiet Christmas at
home with just Randall & Lucy there.
We missed many children who always
make Christmas brighter. I went
to midnight Communion Service Christmas
eve and did not get home till nearly
two and was up at eight. I hope you
have had children with you at their
time.

With my love and deepest sympathy,
Caroline.



hatsoever things
are true,
Whatsoever things
are honest,
Whatsoever things are just
Whatsoever things are pure
Whatsoever things
are lovely
Whatsoever things
are of good report..
Think on these things.

Phil. III : 8

This always makes
me think of your
good husband. So
I send it with deep
affection & all good
wishes & love
for the Christmas
Season.

Mary S. Bristle

10X2979
McNICOL BOSTON USA

Telephone :
~~SHIBUYA (46) 9341~~

KOKUSAI BUNKA SHINKOKAI
(The Society for International Cultural Relations)
Kokusai Bldg., 2, 1-chome, Kyobashi, Chuo-ku
~~67, SHOTO-CHO, SHIBUYA-KU~~
TOKYO

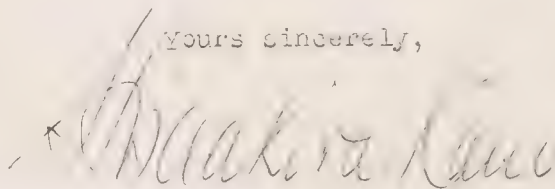
November 1, 1948

Mrs. E. B. Speer
Rockledge
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

Your letter of October 11 was indeed most encouraging. Japanese people are doing utmost to cooperate with General McArthur for the recovery. The moral degradation after the war is very distressing and regrettable. And the only way to save this situation is by Christianization. I spoke about it with Mrs. Vining yesterday. She told me she was a friend of Margaret. Also I met Miss Michiko Kawai and talked over and over again about Dr. Speer and yourself. I have conveyed her your message. She is well and active in her work and she was so pleased and prayed for your health and for the prosperity of your family.

Yours sincerely,



Hisaakira Kano, Chairman.

MARIAN LOCKWOOD MOORE
170 SOUTH MARENGO AVENUE
PASADENA 5, CALIFORNIA

November 26.
1948.

My dear Mrs. Speer

In this year, since Nov. 22nd 1947, you
can never know how many of your friends
all over the world remembered you, and
meant to write, - again and again.

What a beautiful gift you have sent
each of us! Your sketch of Dr. Speer's
life, that wonderfully natural picture
of him, and his book full of precious
help for every day. We have loved
reading this book, and shall be
thrice blest, with one now to lend,
as we use one. Thank you so very much.

Last week I remembered that Nov. 22nd
was coming, and planned to write you.
But it didn't get done. And on the 24th
our Book came from you.

Your Family has always been the Ideal
Family, to me, since 1910 to 14, at Dwight
School, in Englewood. And much
of what you said in Lakeville in '31
is still somewhere in my memory's store
of things precious.

It must be something that only God
can do, and only with special people,
to use them, all unconsciously to themselves,
to be how great a blessing, to hundreds
of people they may not even remember.

May God's tenderest blessings gird you round.

MARIAN LOCKWOOD MOORE
170 SOUTH MARENGO AVENUE
PASADENA 5, CALIFORNIA

We had always, & especially after
talking of it at the Lakeville Conference,
hoped you might visit us in India.

We are on furlough now, hoping very
dearly to return to India next August.

We are not sure where your
Margaret is now. Please give her
my affectionate salams.

Again, please accept our very
deep and grateful thanks for the
Book full of comfort and inspiration.

and strength for the work we
all love.

Most sincerely,

Marian L. Moore.

(Mrs. A.W.)

APARTMENT B-1
100 EAST PALISADE AVENUE
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

2 February 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer,

Thank you for Five Minutes A Day. I have it here in the office and I think it would please Mr. Speer if he could see the people who pick it up and start looking it over. One woman who came in to look at a rug which I advertised for sale, saw the book on the table and stopped talking about the rug long enough to say that she had the book at home and how much it meant to her. So you see the bond that holds us together is strong.

Unless something unlooked for turns up, I am planning now to go to Wayne for the weekend of February 22. My friend, Mary Sherman, has taken her little granddaughter to Arizona to stay three months with one of her married daughters who is settled permanently there. This leaves my godchild, Caroline Johnson, at home with her husband. They have asked me over for this visit and I am thrilled at being invited. I shall telephone you and see if we can make some arrangement to have a little visit together. Caroline took over her mother's job at the Wayne Exchange when Mary undertook the care of her little grandchild so that she will be working on the Saturday I am in Wayne and that might give me a chance to hop a train for an

hour or two in Bryn Mawr. Anyway, after I arrive in Wayne I can see what the situation is and get in touch with you.

We are still buried in deep, dirty snow but have not heard of any more in transit. I think I told you there is some kind of a weather seer in these parts who prophesied the December 26 storm and he now says we're in for another on February 9--a week from today. If he's right there will be time to be dug out before I go to Wayne. I hope you are keeping well and able to get about in spite of the weather. My mother has only been out of the house twice since Christmas and I am glad she is sensible in staying in away from the icy walks.

Thank you again for your kind thought and I shall hope to see you soon.

Love,

Helene A. B.

Helene A. B.
Jan 10 1941

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

December 29, 1947

Original

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
825 Montgomery Avenue,
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

From several sources have come suggestions that there be established a Robert E. Speer Memorial in connection with the cause of foreign missions. One person has suggested that the Board immediately initiate plans for the raising of a large memorial fund to be devoted to some fitting memorial to the life and service of Dr. Speer. It is our understanding that Dr. Speer definitely expressed himself, during his lifetime, as being opposed to any type of memorial fund or memorial building and, therefore, thus far, the Board has felt it unwise to consider such a plan. I am writing to inquire if you have definite information for us in regard to Dr. Speer's wish in such a matter. Naturally, the Board will wish to cooperate most fully if Dr. Speer was opposed to any form of memorial of this character.

The Board has voted to prepare a small memorial brochure, which will include the memorial tribute given by Dr. Mackay, the prayer by Dr. Coffin, and the benediction by Dr. Brown. When this is available, we shall be glad to see that copies are sent to you.

Sincerely yours,



Lloyd S. Ruland

LSR:JT

July 1-1948

Dear Emma,-

I think of you as
in your beloved home again
with the garden planted
and the doors open to
your children and
grand children - I trust
you'll have a summer
of wonderful companionship
with your dearest -

Thank you for the
printed messages about
Robert's passing - They
meant comfort and wisdom
to me - as I know they
must have meant to
hundreds of others - Victory

over the last enemy needs
to be deeply rooted in our
hearts as one line after
sixty when so many
farewells must be said -

I had a business
conference with Fred Ristine
and he seemed delighted
to hear of Jim Speers present
proof - and of his family.
I think he's a good soul but
seemed to me a little over
anxious at our previous
meeting -

My friend of whom I
spoke to - I have stayed
by to help her husband
prepare his office what
he is about to open as

a specialist in internal medicine.
He is sure that all will be well
when he has actually launched on
this service - toward what he
has been working so many years.
Theresa ~~or~~ knows that all the
statistics are against it - could
not give up - until he had this
chance - Prayer is our only means
of trying to help - but it can be
mighty.

There had a rather confused
time since I lost Sam ^{with} -
colds passed along fr. - ^{to} the
other - and then of June 7th
Gertrude with. In Lisbon and four.

children moved to their own home -
only about a mile away - to buy
Horace and Anne are trying to buy
or build so Fred and I may be
by ourselves - Our plan was to
to reach Northfield two weeks from
to-day - and to spend the summer
at The Northfield Hotel - if all goes well -
I had supposed I could steal
some of your time - before I left
Bryn Mawr - I can't help hoping
you'll be with Margaret again - this
fall - Please don't feel I must
acknowledge this note - but do let me
say once more how I prize the time we
had together at Mays - I'm trying my
best to "ripen" gracefully - Love for -
Theresa -

The Little Grey House.
1446 Valley Road / Garthsville. Okla.
August 23, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Spear: -

You are in my
Thoughts so often and yet
I have been so negligent
in my correspondence the
past few months.

as you will know
when ones husband dies -
one must not only adjust
oneself to life without them,
but one must assume added
responsibilities.

I have been and am the
executrix of the estate, which
has taken so much of my time.
Beside I have sold the old

home, Seven² Gables, after
living there for forty four years.

Four weeks ago I moved
into my new home - a lovely
five room house - very con-
venient, beautifully located
facing the Osage Hills and
about a mile from the
old home. It was a tremendous
job to get ready to move -
such an accumulation of
things - all of Mr. McClellan's
papers - such a lot for her
was a hoar dir. I've looked after
this building & the new lawn.
I have had such wonderful
Wall Expboards built especially
for our two hundred albums
of fine recordings. The books
had to be sorted too. I have
brought with me all the joyous
memories of the old home to

the new home - All the memories
 of special days like Christmas
 eve - Sitting about the wood
 fire in the grate listening
 to Christmas music on radios
 and records. The morning sun
 shining into the east windows
 as I have come down stairs
 to prepare the breakfast. The
 songs of the birds, the war-
 ness of God every moment of my
 life - I marvel how well I have
 done this - the body very many.
 yet I laid down in my four
 poster bed the first night and
 slept peacefully and soundly -
 Gaitana joy came up from
 Tulsa and helped me move.
 She has such a lovely little -
 home too. And is a real
 home maker and a good cook.

August 10th. my dear, be-
loved and only sister died
after a five year illness. The
two deaths coming two months
apart has been a test of faith
in the goodness of God. I am
grateful I know He is good - my
strength and my Refuge. The prayer
used in the Memorial Service for
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Jr was
also used in the short service
for Myrtle - it fitted her life - so many
people have come to the family
asking if they might have the source
of where it was found.

No doubt, your family are with
you in Connecticut this summer.
If you do have time to write to me,
I would so appreciate it.

I am thinking about the fine con-
tribution you and Dr. Speer could make
to the Amsterdam Conference. The Clinics of
the Local Presbyterian Church sang every four yes-
terday. affectionately - Marie McClinton.

GEORGE INNES

1704 MEADOWBROOK ROAD
ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

December 18, 1947

Dear Mrs. Spear.

It will soon be Christmas. I hope
you will be happy as I am sure
you will be for memories of Robert
always makes the heart glow & warm.

Dr. Campbell White & I exchanged
letters and he wrote me "I have known
the greatest man I ever knew, &
got the letter I was a student in
College in 54" and you know how
many more minds were turned to Christ
by Dr. White, and there are scores
thousands of them. None but an
accountant or historian can calculate
the wealth of values.

I am enclosing a check. Please use
it to buy the things you most want
in so far as it will go.

Very Fondly Yours,

George Innes

CHARLES T. MACLARY
548 Willow Grove Avenue
Custis Woods, Glenside, Pa.

March 1, 1948

Dear Mrs. Speer:

How kind you are to send me a copy of Dr. Speer's book, "Five Minutes a Day". I did not know of the book, hence it is received with double joy. That you would secure a copy for me and then inscribe it so appreciatively, touches me deeply. The book is already in our home, interestingly, is placed on our living room table alongside a new biography of another life devoted to missions - Albert Schweitzer.

I do hope, - should you come to service sometime at Bryn Mawr church, - that I shall have the pleasure of meeting you. Thank you, again.

Most sincerely,

Charles T. MacLary.

To my friends,

Again the blessed Christmas Season is almost here. The sky is blue outside my window. The grass is green under the drifting brown leaves. Squirrels are frolicking about and climbing the oak tree. The blue jays are noisy but give a welcome touch of color, this most lovely winter morning. I always feel these days before the miracle of Christmas, are sacred and very precious. Shakespeare has said it for us. "Some say that even gainst that season comes wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated, the bird of dawning singest all night long. The nights are hallowed then, and no unholy spirit dares stir abroad." Wouldn't we love to believe that! How much we need to stop and listen to the Christmas angels singing above this Strife of Nations. The old old story of love and peace and goodwill to men.

Sunday night we heard the Christmas Vespers at Wellesley College. Such a lovely chorus of young voices singing the carols of many nations who honor the birth of Christ, and last night we went to Symphony Hall in Boston and heard the "Messiah," a grand way to begin the Christmas Season.

This morning I have been looking over old scrap books in which I have pasted the letters I have sent to you at Christmas since we came home from China twenty-one years ago. We are all of us deeply anxious about China today. Sometimes people ask me questions about it which I cannot answer. "Is it really hopeless in China?" No, I feel sure it is not. I am thinking much of China today. Back of the curtain of war are the people we love. I seem to see again the light on Purple Mountain, purple and gold in the sunshine. I surely can see the old red drum tower, brooding over the city as it has stood more than 600 years. There are long lines of little donkeys coming into the city for the early market. Children are playing in the streets--dirty, cheerful and brown. I see toothless old grandmothers caring for the baby at the house door, and I remember Juda Ma, my children's amah, sitting sewing with her knotted old fingers and making every patch and darn a thing of beauty. She whose rough hands were surprisingly gentle on hot little foreheads. She came to me at last and told me she was going back to her old home in a village across the river. "But Juda Ma, I can't do without you!" "But I must go," she said, "none of my people are Christians, and how would I feel when I get to heaven if none of my people came."

There was Hwang Tai Tai (great lady) one of my first neighbors. She was a beautiful Christian woman who belonged in the official class. She did not speak much English, and I could understand no Cantonese; but there is a language of love which can always be understood. She in her lovely garments came to my meetings with the neighborhood women; and spoke to them with such gracious dignity and kindness in a language they could understand. There was Mrs. Lee, another neighbor, who came and helped my stumbling Chinese. Her lovely little girls played with ours in the grassy compound.

Djang Fang, a little boy of eight, was the son of our Chinese teacher. He had very black hair and eyes and was very bright. Sometimes I took care of a cut finger or a sore throat. He graduated from the university in which he has given twenty-five years of service. He was our first ordained minister from the Yale Divinity School. He is headmaster in the very large middle school of Nanking University. This Christmas his son, Andrew Chang, is coming to be with us. He is taking work in Chemistry as a graduate student at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. We regard his father as our son in China and so Andrew signs himself my grandson.

I cannot help but remember our blind boy, Teh Gwan (obtain light). He had a baby organ and played it through long sleepy summer afternoons. He had

been taught the Braille System and made his own books out of old newspapers. He knew literally hundreds of hymns, most of the Gospels, all of the Psalms, and many of the Prophecies.

The Chen family were our good neighbors and life-long friends. Chen Lao Ban was the builder of most of the university buildings. Madame Chen was the mother of a large fine family of handsome children. The oldest son, Dr. Y. G. Chen, has been the president of Nanking University for twenty-one years.

Of happy memory is our cook, Ying Hong, who stayed with us twenty-three years. He could neither read nor write but became a wonderful cook, somewhat famous for his delicious meals: There was Lao Dong, a tall Shantung man with an inscrutable face, but who loved flowers and animals. He plowed my garden with an old yellow ox and made it a place of beauty. Once he brought home a baby calf, born out on the cold hillside. He wrapped the little doggie in my ironing blanket and built a fire in the stable to warm it. He was the one at Christmas who scoured the hills to find an evergreen tree for us and brought in great pots of the lovely heavenly bamboo and the deliciously fragrant yellow flowered "Mea Lwa." Christmas was most especially lovely in old gray Nanking with nurses from the hospital in white uniforms standing outside on Christmas Eve--red letters on their cap, "Jesus has come to earth." Pastor Swen, the good shepherd of our church, in whose manse we shared so many delicious meals: I remember very clearly the early struggling days of the new university students crowded into inadequate buildings; teaching staff always overworked; money always short; the strength and vitality of the crowding students; the buildings for which the money had been slowly and painfully gathered always in use before the roofs were on, or glass in the windows; the big, bare, ugly campus slowly yielding to shrubs and vines and growing into symmetry and beauty; the students streaming across the campus, hard working, serious, too busy, coming in sometimes, tired and cold, to have tea and cookies and peanuts with us.

As I fold away my sheaf of letters and put away my old scrapbooks, I find it has given me courage to write to you in these troubled days. I thought for awhile I could not do it; there seemed to be nothing I could say. But I can only say in answer to questions about China what I find in my heart--NO, CHINA WILL NOT FAIL. I quote something which I heard from Dr. Hodons, "The real riches of China is in her people." I think everyone who has lived and worked in China will agree in that. The people have not failed. Long suffering, hard working, patient, they will stand fast and face mighty issues. Not guns, but bread and peace they need--what we must give them.

I had thought I could not write this letter, but I would miss you, all of you, so much if I did not hear from you. One year ago today I fell on the stairs at Richard's in Wellesley and broke my collarbone and my wrist. I stayed seven weeks in Wellesley with Allen and Dorothy. With such tender care from them and the skill of Dr. Carol Larson, who met us at the accident door of the Newton Hospital, I came home in February with my bones all healed and as good as new. The Walter Tongs with their children, who are from the Philippines, lived here with me for a year. They moved out in March, and my little house was lonely again after the cheerful laughter and fun of a happy family. In May a very dear friend, Mrs. Nolen R. Best, came and stayed with me until August. "Spike is happy with the Tongs and "Cheewere" with Mrs. Eldridge close by. And I am happy to tell you my sister, Winifred Caldwell, has come to spend the winter with me. The old homestead in South Salem, Ohio, is closed until Spring. She is the perfect answer to my longing and prayer for someone to come and stay with me. We read together and work together and travel down long roads of memory into our childhood days.

Our best news of all is that Mary's twin boys, Robert and James Cochran are on their way home from Peiping, China, to live with "Aunt Freddy" and me and

go to school at the Newton High School. John came home in August and is at Deerfield Academy, where the twin boys (who are 16) are to go in September. Dr. Cochran and Mary and Ann (11) will go for a year to the Hackett Medical School, Canton. Their work at the Taylor Memorial Hospital in Pao ting fu in North China having closed for the present. Mary writes from Peiping, "It was a horrible wrench to see our two fine boys leave us. They have faults, but they are truly a grand pair--loving, unsophisticated, funny and dear. Bob hated to leave his old affectionate gander who honks when he sees him and snuggles up to him with his old yellow beak. We are having to eat the old noisy rooster for dinner today without much appetite. These fowls have been raised by the boys since they hatched. Bob and Jim both begged to be sent home to Gramy's house. They said, 'Don't send us to the Shanghai School; we will wash all the dishes and do the marketing; we will get jobs to help. Write to Gramy. I bet she will take us in.'" Yes, Gramy will take them in with open arms.

This letter is too long, but it carries so much love to each one of you, hoping that this year peace will come.

With the Season's Greetings

Lillian C Williams.

Dearest Mrs Speer.

This brings to you and Margaret as much
love. I only wish we might some day meet.
Mrs McAfee and I often wish we three might be
together. You will be glad to hear that Bill &
Mary's twin boys arrived last Thursday.
Fine handsome lads they are. My hope

Bill & Mary & Ann are together in Canton. They were
to fly from Shanghai last Thursday. Darling Nancy
still at her post in gardening our last word.

With loving thoughts of you this lonely Christmas

Lilian C Williams

Dec 21st

Sab al Ghaut - Lebanon
Dec. 11th 1947,

My dear Mrs. Spier,

Our hearts go out to you in loving sympathy in your deep sorrow and loss - but I feel sure you feel his presence very near to you all the time because you were so near & dear to each other always.

He still lives on! He cannot die - that is impossible - We have so much around us that speaks of him! How much we enjoy the little book "Five Minutes a Day" which we brought back with us, on had given us, when home our father a year ago -

Well do I remember when my father died, about twelve years ago, the very beautiful letter he wrote me in connection with his long life of service on the Mission Field. I did appreciate that very beautiful letter very deeply & have always kept it.

I am so glad you have been spared to each other for so many very beautiful years - What very precious, beautiful memories you have of your years together - I am sure ^{we} they ^{are} doubly precious now with him there & that dear son of yours - waiting there to welcome you too when you (two) hear the glad summons & the "well-done good & faithful servant" enter them into the joys of the Land - We are in no hurry when you go, don't mistake me, but I am thinking of what that meeting will be to you when it does take place! May our loving heavenly Father comfort you very especially. In loving sympathy
Elizabeth Spier

Souk el Gharb, Lebanon, XII / 11 / 1947

Dear Mrs. Spier:

A few days ago we heard of the passing away from these earthly scenes of your good husband. It is not at all likely that you would be so soon. I wish to express our most sincere sympathy. But it is a sad day. I have known him from the "Year Book of the Student Volunteer Movement" in Cincinnati and Dr. Spier was one of the speakers. Again as a college student I heard him at the Nashville convention of the Student Volunteer Movement and admired him very much indeed. Our Syria Mission was under his care for many years and we know him as a fine executive. And so for all these many years I have known and loved and greatly respected your husband.

His books go on bringing his cheering, encouraging, inspiring, informing, influence. Our latest is his book of devotional readings entitled "Five Minutes a Day".

He had spoken. I hear, at a great public meeting only a short time before his death and earned the strong man title. But all men come to the end of earthly responsibilities and are then called to the later, fuller, greater life in God's presence.

He rests. You soon join him. And I pray that in your confidence that God will send you a strong, sustaining faith and assurance of God's love to keep you.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. T. Williams

P.S. Please put no undue obligation to reply to this letter.
H. A. T. Williams

219
Mrs Thomas Longwell -

MANHASSET
LONG ISLAND

November 25th -

Dearest Auntie Emma -

It was so distressing
to hear about Uncle Rob -
and I know how very
sad it is for you - and
all of us - It was our
great loss that we didn't
see more of him, but what
I had the privilege of knowing
was a great inspiration, and
I will always remember all
his charm & kindness and
understanding - I only wish
my children could have known
him - Please accept my

very deepest sympathy and
dearest love -

Weedie

2448 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington 8, D.C.

Decatur 7725

Christmas Day

Dear Emma.

you have been so very much in my thoughts these days. I have found myself reliving the long ago past. A picture is vivid in my mind. I see you coming out of Duxbury, and you wear a thin flowered dress. It is spring and you are radiant as you walk lightly over the grass, and I think, "She looks like Spring herself. What does that joy on her face mean?" And then I see him coming over the grass toward you - and I know, long before I heard,

perhaps before you knew yourself. For more than fifty years that lovely picture has stayed with me.

There cannot be so many now who remember Elena's most individual personality. She is present to me, with her little white face and beautiful speaking eyes. Oddly enough, of all your children I see her most clearly, although I remember the two eldest very well. I can remember going to school with them and staying to visit a class.

You gave me many pleasures, dear Elena, and I am grateful.

It is strange that I only once heard

2448 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.

Washington 8, D.C.

Decatur 7725

him speak - my misfortune. It just happened so, but that was - I could say whole paragraphs of it to-day, and it was more than forty years ago.

Dear Emma, the veil must be very thin to you between the life here and the life there. You mean so very much to so very many, I am sure you are content to go on for a while.

Always with an old affection,
Edith Hamilton

Rockefeller Center

New York

20

December 22, 1947

Dear Mrs. Spear:

Because your husband was so vigorous physically and so vital in his personality, because I have had happy association with him in many good works all my life, because of the deep spiritual influence he has had on hundreds and thousands of people throughout the world, because of the new hope and faith which he has brought to so many, I cannot think of him as no longer with us but rejoice to feel that he is with us in spirit and always will be. Much as we miss him, we can but be grateful for his wonderful life, extended over so long a span, nor can we do other than rejoice for him in that he has at length entered into his richly deserved reward.

How hard it is to live continuously on the mountaintop and how difficult it is not to be overcome at times with the sorrow and the sense of loss that creeps over one in the shaded places of the valley, I well know. That the hidden sources of strength and power to which you have had access all your life may supply you with the comfort and the strength which you so sorely need in these days of readjustment is my earnest hope and prayer.

Mrs. Rockefeller joins me in this tribute to your husband and in these expressions of sorrow and of affectionate regard for you.

Very sincerely,

John D. Rockefeller Jr.

Mrs. Robert E. Spear
Lakeville
Connecticut

815, FIFTH AVENUE

✓

Dearest Annie --

How often my thoughts
have been with you -- & how, some-
times, we both have pictured them
standing near greeting each other in
the kindly radiance of their
habitation.

We are very sad in the
chance as you can imagine, Our
dear friend, I fear, is through.
He does not gain strength, & is
quietly slipping out. I am indeed
when he was coming into the
world & growing up his fathering.

I shall see him in the
morning & will I arrange with
a nurse as you will desire.
With no much to expect, and so
many to expect it, certainly
is not to be dignified. I do hope
we may have a fairly long and
vital hour. Love to your
Dec 9/67

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

December 12, 1947

Mrs. Robert E. Speer
825 Montgomery Avenue
Bryn Mawr, Penna.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I have just been down to the First Church for a conference with Miss Weiss, checking up on all of the details for the Memorial Service for Dr. Speer on next Monday afternoon, and I am writing you herewith to give you the latest information:

(1) Seating. The first three pews directly in front of the lectern will be reserved for you and the other members of the family. I suggested that the pews in front of the lectern, rather than the three pews in front of the pulpit, be reserved for you, because on account of the Christmas decorations, which are already in the church, and because of the height of the pulpit, it would be necessary for you all to strain your necks in order to hear. By sitting in front of the lectern you can have a much easier time listening to the remarks to be made by the three speakers. This is the plan we followed in connection with the Memorial Service for Dr. McAfee, and I think you will like it.

Directly behind your family, 150 seats are being reserved for representatives of the Foreign Board and Princeton Theological Seminary. Directly across the aisle, in front of the pulpit, 150 seats are being reserved for representatives of the Federal Council of Churches and the Foreign Missions Conference. All of these seats will be held by the ushers until 4:25 P.M.

(2) Flowers. Miss Weiss had some trouble in getting just the kind of chrysanthemums you would like, because of the lateness of the season, but she reported to me this morning that she has gotten in touch with some woman who has secured them, and that they will be placed on the Communion Table in the particular bowl you mentioned, as you requested.

(3) Hymns. The two hymns, namely "He that Would Valiant Be" to the tune of Monks Gate and "The Sands of Time are Sinking", will be posted on the Bulletin Board, as the service is to proceed without announcement.

(4) Ushers. There will be ten ushers in all, two each from the church, the Foreign Board, Princeton Seminary, Federal Council and Foreign Missions Conference, under the direction of Dr. Lloyd Ruland, who will act as head usher.

I expect to be at the church not later than 3:45 P.M. for a final check-up.

It was impossible for us to send you a supply of the printed invitations, because on account of the delay by the printer we did not receive the invitations until yesterday toward noon. If any of your friends n

(Over)

turn up at the church at 4 P.M., they will not mind being seated at that early hour, I am sure, as there will be an unusually large attendance.

Very sincerely yours,

William F. Phelps

WPS:NV

1302 Taylor St.

Cincinnati

Mississippi

Jan 11

Excelsior Springs, Mo.,

Nov. 27, 1947

My dear, dear Friend,

I hope that you
will have an extra paper, that I
may have it and know some
of the details, because I know
it will not be possible for you to
write for awhile.

I hope you are having beautiful
fall days as we are. But fall
was so beautiful until after
New Year and that made it

possible for me to be out every day
so that the loneliness without
her was not quite so constantly
with me.

Of course, I am wandering
you will spend your winter.

I am leaving for home tomorrow
and I am so happy that that
time has called round. I shall
stop for a day and night with
my son in Mayfield, Kentucky -
I want to see this precious little
Mary Katherine. She is almost
six months old now and a

beautiful little thing.

I feel rested and much improved and I feel that I have learned enough about this colic to carry out some of the daily habits started here and by so doing, keep my system in such condition that I can keep this old arthritis under control.

Please give my love to Miss Margaret and keep for yourself a great big share.

Devotedly,
Triscilla

Excelsior Springs, Mo.,
Nov. 24th.

My dear, dear Friend,

In a little book sent
me by a Nashville friend I read
your message as given to
her readers by Green Hall Cassell.

"Rather than any priceless gift today
I would bring you comfort if I could."

If there be any word that I might say
to ease your anxiety, heart, dear friend,
be glad to speak that word, be glad to help,
to make a way for your comfort.

But well, I know that silence is a part
of sympathy - no part a part, indeed,
that in this first dark moment when you
are alone with the dead, silence will not prove
better than words... but let me drop your
hand, and say, "Friend, I understand."

Mary was there, too. She loved him so!
Thank your Margaret for letting me
know by wire. I shall be with you
in thought and in love.

I dreamed about you last week.
It was such a dear, sweet dream -

I love you.

Trissilla

SAMUEL M. ZWEMER
THIRTY THREE FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

Dec 16 - 27

My dear Mrs. Speer - I was deeply moved by the memorial service in the 1st Presbyterian Church on Sunday, and the memory of that at Bryn Mawr will never be effaced. But now I am writing to you at the request of Dr. Barbour of Revell & Co. to ask whether there is any MS. or partly completed MS. which Robert has left and which perhaps you would be willing to submit to F. H. Revell & Co. Robert's last book on "Jesus and Modern Problems" is having a good sale but Dr. Barbour (who asked me to write for him) is very anxious to publish another message.

Personally I would prefer a new edition of what Dr. Caillot called "the greatest of all Dr. Speer books" viz. The Finality of Jesus Christ. That is now out of print. Perhaps you can find time at your convenience to send a brief reply.

with affectionate greetings in which
Mrs. Zwemer joins
I am, Sincerely,
Samuel M. Zwemer.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PARK AVENUE AT 64TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MINISTER'S STUDY

December 30th -

Dear Mrs. Speer: -

That was a very lovely
Memorial Service - for
your beloved husband -
which was held at the
First Church on December
15.th Over and above everything
that was said in the prayers,
the scripture readings and

The Tributes, there was a
distinct feeling of the love
and devotion for him of -
a great company of friends,
both present and absent.

We all will miss him no
end. You and the family will
miss him beyond the capacity
of words to describe. But what
a welcome he must have received
in the Heavenly Kingdom, and
what glorious service he is
fitted to perform there!

That perfectly beautiful prayer
of your husband's, printed
in the back of the Order of
Service for the Memorial Service,
I am taking the liberty of
using at an Watch Night Service,
to-morrow night.

Our ones join me in sending
loving regards to you and all the
family.

Sincerely yours,
Edw. Speers

HENRY R. LUCE
9 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK 20

November 15th, 1948.

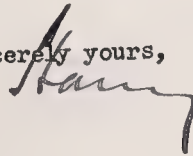
Dear Mrs. Speer:-

I am just leaving to make a speech in the Midwest which mother wanted me to undertake but before leaving, I do want to thank you for your loving message.

It seems to me that in nearly every one of my last visits with mother, there was talk of the Speers. That will tell you how very much you meant to her -- and to me, too. I do not know how to say all that is in my heart -- so I will just leave it at that for the moment.

With affection and esteem,

Sincerely yours,



Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Rockledge,
Lakeville,
Connecticut.

THE WILLIAM PENN CHARTER SCHOOL
PINEHURST, SCHOOL LANE
PHILADELPHIA 44, PENNSYLVANIA

Founded 1689
Chartered 1711

JOHN F. GUMMERE, Ph.D.
Headmaster

April 5, 1948.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

I am more than a trifle late in replying to your letter of March 19th. A busy Lenten, Easter, and post-Easter season forced me to wait until I could devote more thought to your inquiry about the music which I played at Dr. Speer's memorial service. Unfortunately, I made no record of it, - except in memory, and this been stimulated by the comments of kind friends who were there and expressed comment on this or that selection. In addition to the congregational hymns, I believe I used:

Two Chorale Preludes by J. S. Bach
"Our Father who art in heaven"
"Hark", a voice saith, "All are mortal"

and the following hymns:
Jesus, lover of my soul
Abide with me
Jerusalem, the golden
O Love that wilt not let me go
Lead, kindly light
Nearer my God to Thee
Peace, perfect peace
Rock of Ages

Perhaps you may recall the names of one or two other hymns.

If your "at home" evening should be one for which I am not already committed, I shall be happy to come over for a short time for some hymn singing with your Bible Class.

With kind personal regards and the hope that I shall have the pleasure of meeting you sometime at Church, I remain,

Cordially yours,

Charles J. Maskey

In Maclure

44

Music at

Seaside

Nov. 24 - 1947

Union Theological Seminary

(CORPORATE TITLE "THE TRUSTEES OF UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN VIRGINIA")
FOUNDED IN 1812

Richmond, Virginia

BIBLICAL DEPARTMENT
J. GRAY MCALLISTER

November 26, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Spear:

We were saddened to read of the passing of Dr. Spear but we rejoice in the assurance of his translation into the presence of the Saviour whom he passionately loved and served. He was an inspiration to me from the time I first heard him at Northfield more than fifty years ago. I felt especially grateful to him for his messages at Montreal as long as I was Conference Director and for his articles in the Union Seminary Review through my long editorship of that journal. In my judgment, shared, I know, by many in our Church, he stood easily first among the great preachers (though a layman) of our time. I remember still his sermon, at Montreal, on Heaven and how near the Homeland seemed in that hour.

And so he passed over the river and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.

Sincerely yours,
J. Gray McAllister.

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

September 13, 1948

Mrs. Robert E. Speer,
Rockledge,
Lakeville, Connecticut.

Dear Mrs. Speer:

My reply to your letter of August 2nd, has been delayed until my return from vacation. I wish to acknowledge, with very deep gratitude, on behalf of all of our missionaries, the gift of the thousand copies of "Five Minutes a Day." These arrived and are ready to be mailed out to our scattered missionary families just as soon as we receive from you the little folder which you are preparing to be enclosed with each copy.

I was especially interested in the first paragraph of your letter in which you report final conclusion reached by you and the other members of the family concerning a possible biography of Dr. Speer and a possible memorial project in his name. I know what a difficult decision this has been to make in view of the many great values that might come to the Christian movement through a well written biography covering the significant Christian movements related to the life and service of Dr. Speer. However, I would not question your decision, given at least in part in deference to the expressed wishes of Dr. Speer before his death.

Very sincerely yours,



Lloyd S. Ruland.

LSR:rr